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SCIENCE

A WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, PUBLISHING THE
OFFICIAL NOTICES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 1903.

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MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the responsible editor, Professor J. McKeen Cattell, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON.*

MEETING OF INCORPORATORS OF THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON.

THE meeting of the Incorporators of the Carnegie Institution was held at the office of the Secretary of State, Washington, D. C., January 4, 1902, at 10 o'clock A.M.

Present: Hon. John Hay, Secretary of State, Justice Edward D. White, Dr. Daniel C. Gilman, Dr. John S. Billings, Hon. Carroll D. Wright and Dr. Charles D. Walcott. Mr. Hay was chosen chairman of the meeting and Mr. Walcott secretary.

On receipt of notice of the filing of the Articles of Incorporation, Mr. White moved that the incorporators proceed to ballot for trustees. This was done, and the following persons were unanimously elected:

Ex Officio. The President of the United States; the President of the Senate; the Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution; the President of the National Academy of Sciences.

Grover Cleveland, New Jersey; John S. Billings, New York; William N. Frew, Pennsylvania; Lyman J. Gage, Illinois; Daniel C. Gilman, Maryland; John Hay, District of Columbia; Abram S. Hewitt, New Jersey; Henry L. Higginson, Massachusetts; Henry Hitchcock, Missouri; Charles L. Hutchinson, Illinois; William Lindsay, Kentucky; Seth Low, New York; Wayne MacVeagh, Pennsylvania; D. O. Mills, New York; S. Weir Mitchell, Pennsylvania; William W. Morrow, California;

* Abstracts from the Year Book, No. 1, 1902.

part of 1899 in the quest of health and occupied himself by observing 'facts and fancies about animals and plants.' His place of residence was about a hundred miles south of Jacksonville. His observations, with occasional reveries on other subjects, combined with remarks upon the conditions prevailing in the times of Bartram, Michaux and Say, make up the chief part of the volume. In an appendix he presents a list, with notes, of one hundred and fifty species of insects collected.

The most important discovery made was that of the left humerus of the great auk from a large shell mound on the Spanish Grant. The writer found a second specimen of a similar animal thirty feet distant from the one obtained by Mr. Blatchley (see SCIENCE, XVI., p. 203). Hence it would seem as if the facts were well established that the great auk was once a resident of Florida, and presumably of the whole Atlantic coast.

This mound is over one thousand feet long and ten feet thick, composed largely of the shell of the *Donax*, which is still used for food. Twenty-seven other species of mollusca were secured, besides several fish, turtles, alligators and half a dozen mammals. A few implements were also picked up.

The author presents his facts in a very pleasant way, easily appreciated by all intelligent people, apart from tourists and scientists.

C. H. HITCHCOCK.

HANOVER, N. H.

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS AND ARTICLES.

Journal of Physical Chemistry, December.—'On the Passage of a Direct Current Through an Electrolytic Cell,' by S. L. Bigelow. A study of the cause of the residual current when the electromotive force is below the decomposition point. 'On the Critical States of a Binary System,' by Paul Saurel. 'Deduction of the Magnitude of the Osmotic Pressure in Dilute Solutions according to the Kinetic Theory,' by Peter Fireman. The deduction is drawn that the osmotic pressure of a substance in dilute solution is equal to the corresponding gas pressure of that substance at the same temperature. The conclusion is also drawn that, in general, the kinetic

energy of the molecules of a liquid is equal to that of gas molecules at the same temperature. This number of the *Journal* also contains the index to Volume VI.

January.—'The Rate of Oxidation of Ferrous Salts by Chromic Acid,' by Clara C. Benson. This paper includes an analytical method for determining ferrous iron in the presence of ferric salts and chromic acid. 'Electromotive Force of Alloys of Tin, Lead and Bismuth,' by E. A. Shepherd. 'Reduction of Insoluble Cathodes,' by Alfred T. Weightman. Chiefly a study of the reduction of lead sulfid. 'Electrolytic Preparation of Sodium Amalgam,' by E. S. Shepherd.

THE *Journal of Comparative Neurology* for December contains the following articles: 'On the Origin of Neuroglia Tissue from the Mesoblast,' by Shinkishi Hatai. Describes and figures the proliferation of neuroglia cells from the walls of the embryonic capillaries. 'On the Number and on the Relation between Diameter and Distribution of the Nerve Fibers Innervating the Leg of the Frog,' by Elizabeth Hopkins Dunn. A continuation and control of a previous study, showing, among other conclusions, that the largest nerve fibers do not run the longest course, as Schwalbe supposed, but terminate in the thigh. In the next paper, 'A Note on the Significance of the Size of Nerve Fibers in Fishes,' by C. Judson Herrick, this conclusion is confirmed for the fishes, and observations presented tending to show that the size of nerve fibers, within certain limits, is determined by the state of functional development of the organ innervated. 'The Eye of the Common Mole, *Scalops aquaticus macrinus*,' by James Rollin Slonaker. The eye is described in detail and found to be in so greatly reduced condition as to render it very improbable that it can function at all. Twenty pages of book reviews complete the number.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.

THE 174th regular meeting was held on January 8, 1903, eighteen members and two